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Date: February 27, 2002

By: Kay L. Gaviglio

**PATENT**  
**Docket No. GC538-2**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of )

M. Boston et al. )

Serial No.: CPA of 09/470,168 )

Filed: December 22, 1999 )

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING ASCORBIC )  
ACID INTERMEDIATES )

Group Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: E. Slobodyansky, Ph.D.

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

BOX CPA  
Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please enter the instant amendment in the above-identified application prior to considering the application on the merits. The amendment is being filed concurrently with a request for a Continuation Prosecution Application (CPA).

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 29 and 76 without prejudice.

Please enter the following clean copy of the amended claims. A marked-up version of said claims is submitted on a separate sheet. Additionally Applicants have attached a copy of the claim status for the Examiner's convenience.

15.(Twice amended) A process for the non-fermentative production of 2-KLG from a carbon source, comprising the following steps in any order,

a. enzymatically oxidizing the carbon source by at least three enzymatic oxidative steps to an oxidation product wherein the first enzymatic oxidation step requires an oxidized form of an enzymatic co-factor; and